

INTIMATIONS.

BROWN, JONES & CO.
AMERICAN AND ITALIAN MARBLE
CROSSES
HEADSTONES AND COLUMNS
in Stock.
Prices moderate. Work Promptly Done.
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

CHEMISTS BY APPOINTMENT.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED
WATERS.

Our New Factory has been recently refitted with automatic Steam Machinery of the latest and most approved kind, and we are well able to compete in quality with the best English makers.

The purest ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

BOMBAY SODAS."

We continue to supply large bottles as heretofore. Five of Extra Charge, to those of our customers who prefer to have them to the ordinary size.

COAST PORT ORDERS, whenever practicable, are despatched by first steamer leaving after receipt of order.
For COAST PORTS, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices; and the full amount allowed for Packages and Empire which received in good condition.

Counter-fair Order Books supplied free on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is
"DISPENSARY, HONGKONG."
And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock.—

PURE AERATED WATER

SOIA WATER.

LEMONADE.

POTASH WATER.

SELTZER WATER.

LITHIA WATER.

SARSAPARILLA WATER.

TONIC WATER.

GINGER ALE.

GINGERADE.

LEMON SQUASH.

RASPBERRYADE.

No credit given for Bottles that look dirty or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Aerated Waters, as such. Bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.
The Hongkong Dispensary, Hongkong. [19]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.
Only communications relating to the news columns should be addressed to "The Editor." Correspondents are requested to forward their names and addresses to the Hongkong Office of the *Press*, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith. All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

No anonymously signed communication that have appeared in other papers will be inserted.

Letters intended for the Hongkong Office should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

Telegraphic Address, *Press*.
P. O. Box 30. Telephone No. 12.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MAY 5TH, 1893.

The arrival of the mail from London to Hongkong in less than twenty-four days, or eight days under contract time, is suggestive of future improvements in our mail service. The present contract with the P. & O. Company commenced in 1888, the term being ten years, so that it has still five years to run. During that time we will be dependent solely on the good will and enterprise of the Company for any acceleration of the service that may take place, but it would seem that the Company finds it to its interest to run its steamer considerably in excess of the speed stipulated for. Leaving out of consideration exceptional performances such as that of the *Oriental*, we have come to expect our mails to be delivered as a regular thing within thirty days and it is not an uncommon thing to receive them in twenty-eight days. The speed provided for under the present contract is 12½ knots in the Mediterranean and 11½ knots east of Suez. When the contract was in course of negotiation the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce urged that in view of the lengthened period it was to run, ten years, and the probable improvement in steam navigation, coupled with the fact that the contract speed of the German mail steamer to the East was 12 knots, it should be stipulated that the rate of speed at which the mail steamers should run between Suez and Shanghai should not be less than 12 knots an hour. Their representations on this point were not successful, but it has turned out to be a matter of no consequence, since the average rate of speed maintained has actually been in excess of what the Chamber asked for.

When the next contract comes to be negotiated 12 knots will probably be considered an absurdly low rate at which to fix the minimum speed. There have been great improvements in steam navigation during the last five years, and the next five will probably see a still greater advance. For the last contract there was keen competition and when tenders are again invited it is probable the P. & O. will not be allowed a walk over, though there is very little doubt as to their ultimate success in the competition. In the meantime they are giving evidence of what they can do, and showing possible competitors what the conditions of the struggle will be. To the public the immediate advantage of the acceleration of the service is of a somewhat doubtful character. This week we have received the mail of the 7th April in advance of that of the 31st March, a circumstance which is apt to cause some confusion in business correspondence, and for some time past the French and English mails have been arriving within a day or two of each other and the letters by both have had

to be answered by the same outgoing mail, the following week being a blank so far as inward correspondence is concerned. In fact we have been reduced almost to the condition of a fortnightly service.

That is really all we pay for in the way of subsidy, but we have been so long accustomed to a comparatively regular alteration of the French with the English mail that the upsetting of the arrangement is looked upon almost as a grievance. For the sake of the public convenience in the matter of mails it is to be hoped the Messengers Maritimes will find it possible to accelerate their services pari passu with that of the P. & O., and it would likewise be useful if an arrangement could be made for both mails to leave Hongkong on the same day of the week instead of one leaving on Thursday and the other on Wednesday, which gives irregular intervals between them of six days and eight days. What the public convenience requires is a regular weekly service both inward and outward.

The boxing tournament which was participated in Saturday on board the *China* will be played this afternoon at Canaway Bay at three o'clock.

The Chinese Mutual Association Peking, from Glasgow and Liverpool left Shapero's on this port on the morning of the 4th April, may be expected here on or about the 8th inst.

The steamer Irene, Captain Webber, which arrived yesterday from Antwerp, brings with her a cargo of war material consisting of gun boats, ironclads, and monitors, the Chinese Government having sent them to Britain.

The Irene has been ordered to Hongkong to have orders and leaves to-day for Wei-hai-wei.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

At the Magistracy yesterday a native fireman on the steamer Glasgow was charged with stealing 267 in silver and some clothing, worth about \$38, of a passenger, a Chinese. Another fireman observed the defendant bring down a boat into the water and a gunboat came up to the scene of the theft. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

At the Magistracy yesterday a native fireman on the steamer Glasgow was charged with stealing 267 in silver and some clothing, worth about \$38, of a passenger, a Chinese. Another fireman observed the defendant bring down a boat into the water and a gunboat came up to the scene of the theft. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J. Coxon or Dr. Menden shall meet the present holder, H. Pinckney.

The naval tournament upon the Cricket ground is approaching its final stages and two interesting races will be played this afternoon in the final of the doublets. Pinckney and Platt and Grimble and Lamont, the final tie in the Champions to decide whether E. J.

THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

The E. & A. Co.'s steamer *Auris* arrived from Australia yesterday. The following telegram is from our exchanges:

SCOTTISH WIDOWS' ASSOCIATION.

LONDON, 24th April.

Mr. Tarball, the manager, and Messrs. Owen and Jamison, directors of the Scottish Widows' Association, have written to the Government, asking it to take steps in guaranteeing a sum of £200,000 for the Postmaster-General.

Mr. Todd, says that from the standpoint of mail and South Australian business men feel little concern about the Pacific route. The Government has not yet considered Sir George Dibbs' communication.

LAWNSWORTH, 10th April.

Ministers have not yet consulted upon the nomination of sub-lieutenant Mr. Huddart's Australian-Canadian line. It is understood that the Government will decline in the present state of the finances of the colony to contribute to the cost of the service.

The additional deposit of £100,000 has been placed at the disposal of the Australian banks, which were invested in the Commercial Bank of Australia, but from a cable message which had been received, it was believed that the funds of the society were perfectly safe.

GERMAN SAMOA.

The German Consul, commenting upon the present position of affairs in Samoa, advises that Germany should annex the islands.

POLITICAL CRISIS IN S. AFRICA.

The political situation in S. Africa is now very serious. The liberal party, having failed to elect the general elections to a decided majority, is in a minority, and the members of the House of Commons are in a difficult position. They will still endeavour to continue in power, and are relying upon their party, and the present condition of the country is bordering upon anarchy.

THE MARSHALL ISLANDS.

LONDON, 9th April.

It is reported at Washington that Mr. Schmid, the Governor of Marshall Islands, intends to deport the American missionaries who are stationed there.

KIOTING IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

A somewhat serious riot occurred in Trafalgar-square yesterday, when an organised body of 3,000 taxicab drivers broke up a meeting which was being held opposite the Royal Exchange. The taxicab drivers declared the banners carried by the people present at the meeting, and in the conflict which ensued several persons were injured. The police then intervened and arrested ten persons who had taken a prominent part in the disturbance.

BRITISH TRADE REPORTS.

The British Trade Returns, just published, show that the exports from Great Britain for the month of March decreased to the extent of £232,000 as compared with the corresponding month of last year. The imports for the month of March show a decrease of £22,700.

LONDON, 10th April.

The Times says that the Board of Trade returns, just published, are the best for many months.

PEAK FIRE IN NEBRASKA.

An awful prairie fire has occurred at Omaha in the State of Nebraska. Fifteen miles of country was devastated. The fire travelled at the rate of 40 miles per hour. Many villages which lay in the path of the flames were destroyed.

The inhabitants inhabiting the villages are in a state of abject misery and despair.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL MARRIED.

LONDON, 11th April.

A man was arrested yesterday for attempting to assassinate Cardinal I. King of Portugal, while his Majesty was outdriving. It was found that the man is a native of Portugal.

CHOLENA IN FRANCE.

Ten deaths from cholera were reported at L'Oréat, in the South of France, on Sunday.

MULVIN FARDONED.

M. Sadi Carnot, the French President, has granted a pardon to M. Turpin, the inventor of the explosive "Nitro-glycerine," who was sentenced to a term of imprisonment, as was agreed, in the interest of a foreign firm.

The Paris *Figaro* commenting on the matter charges M. de Freycinet, the then Premier, with having imprisoned M. Turpin in order to prevent him divulging the secret of the manufacture of the new explosive, and afterwards offering him a pardon and a reward on the condition of his death.

EARTHQUAKE IN ASIA MINOR.

Information has been received of a terrible earthquake having occurred at Mytilene, in Asia Minor, causing great loss of life and immense destruction of property. Three thousand houses are stated to have been completely destroyed, and 6,000 houses partially damaged, and 1,000 persons were killed by the falling buildings.

INFLUENZA.

LONDON, 20th April.

Influence of a virulent type has broken out in Paris. Half the officials in the Post Office department have been incapacitated.

COTTON EXPLOSION.

A disastrous cotton explosion has taken place at Chelmsford, Essex. One hundred and fifty of the impinged men have been rescued, but fifty still remain entombed.

THE OZAR I.

The Oyarzun is to be paid under an attack of influence.

THE IRISH QUEST ON.

Mr. A. J. Balfour addressed a meeting in the Lester Hall, Dublin, to the residents of Lord Levington, who are still engaged in a strike in which Mr. Balfour was seated. Mr. Balfour escaped injury, but the other opponents of the carriage were struck.

Sixty thousand stand of arms have been landed in Ulster. Forty-four corps are now being secretly drilled.

THE HONGKONG WISDOM OF IRISH. The order issued by Lord Houghton, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, restricting the importation of arms into Ireland, is due to the numerous seizures of arms which have been made on passengers coming from America.

A section of the *Irish-Gael* in America, over dissension in the ranks of that organization, has abandoned the revolutionary methods of the *Clan-na-Gael*, and joined the Irish National Federation.

THE NEW CANADIAN-AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

MELBOURNE, 9th April.

Mr. James Holdfast has been interviewed with reference to the proposed steamship service between Canada and Australia, and said the services will be worked by a company styled the "Canadian Pacific Steamship Line," of which Mr. Huddart is the managing owner, and that will be altogether outside and distinct from the firm of Huddart, Parker, and Co. Limited, and the Canadian government agreed to subscribe the new line to the extent of £25,000, and it only remained for the Australian Government to guarantee a like amount, and the new service would be immediately inaugurated. The new steamer *Mowat* and *Warriss* will be used for the work. Mr. Holdfast is very hopeful in the matter, and the Canadian Government has met him, and also with the interest shown in the project by the Premier of New South Wales. Sir George Dibbs had taken up the matter in a federal court, and had refused to commit his government until he had consulted with the other colonies.

As an concession to the Australian Government, he has agreed to join in the affair, the promoters of the new undertaking are prepared to make Brisbane a port of call, and they claim, that this would put Brisbane on an equality with Adelaidia in the matter of speedy communication with London.

BIRMINGHAM, 10th April.

Mr. Ward, representing Mr. James Holdfast, had an interview with the Chief Secretary today in reference to the proposed Canadian steam service. It is intended that Brisbane should be the first port of call towards the east, and onwards, Sydney being the terminus. The subsidy required from Queensland is £25,000. Sir Thomas Mowat, the minister, said the details regarding the proposed terms as in the present position of public affairs, no definite arrangement could be made, but he is in favour of subsidising a direct line of steamers to Vancouver.

MELBOURNE, 10th April.

The Government had, under consideration, to have the proposed Canadian steam service. The consideration of the matter was adjourned, pending advice from the South Australian Government. It is understood that the Victorian Cabinet does not feel satisfied at present, at any rate, to take much interest in the proposal.

ADELAIDE, 10th April.

The Premier today received a telegram from Sir George Grey, the Governor of Tasmania, to the effect that he had received a cablegram from the

Government of Tasmania, saying that the Government was willing to join in guaranteeing a sum of £200,000 for the Postmaster-General.

Mr. Todd, says that from the standpoint of mail and South Australian business men feel little concern about the Pacific route. The Government has not yet considered Sir George Dibbs' communication.

LAWNSWORTH, 10th April.

Ministers have not yet consulted upon the nomination of sub-lieutenant Mr. Huddart's Australian-Canadian line. It is understood that the Government will decline in the present state of the finances of the colony to contribute to the cost of the service.

The additional deposit of £100,000 has been placed

at the disposal of the Australian banks,

which were invested in the Commercial Bank of Australia, but from a cable message which had been received, it was believed that the funds of the society were perfectly safe.

GERMAN SAMOA.

The German Consul, commenting upon the present position of affairs in Samoa, advises that Germany should annex the islands.

POLITICAL CRISIS IN S. AFRICA.

The political situation in S. Africa is now very serious. The liberal party, having failed to elect the general elections to a decided majority, is in a minority, and the members of the House of Commons are in a difficult position. They will still endeavour to continue in power, and are relying upon their party, and the present condition of the country is bordering upon anarchy.

THE MARSHALL ISLANDS.

LONDON, 9th April.

It is reported at Washington that Mr. Schmid, the Governor of Marshall Islands, intends to deport the American missionaries who are stationed there.

KIOTING IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

A somewhat serious riot occurred in Trafalgar-square yesterday, when an organised body of 3,000 taxicab drivers broke up a meeting which was being held opposite the Royal Exchange. The taxicab drivers declared the banners carried by the people present at the meeting, and in the conflict which ensued several persons were injured. The police then intervened and arrested ten persons who had taken a prominent part in the disturbance.

BRITISH TRADE REPORTS.

The British Trade Returns, just published, show that the exports from Great Britain for the month of March decreased to the extent of £232,000 as compared with the corresponding month of last year. The imports for the month of March show a decrease of £22,700.

LONDON, 10th April.

The Times says that the Board of Trade returns, just published, are the best for many months.

PEAK FIRE IN NEBRASKA.

An awful prairie fire has occurred at Omaha in the State of Nebraska. Fifteen miles of country was devastated. The fire travelled at the rate of 40 miles per hour. Many villages which lay in the path of the flames were destroyed.

The inhabitants inhabiting the villages are in a state of abject misery and despair.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL MARRIED.

LONDON, 11th April.

A man was arrested yesterday for attempting to assassinate Cardinal I. King of Portugal, while his Majesty was outdriving. It was found that the man is a native of Portugal.

CHOLENA IN FRANCE.

Ten deaths from cholera were reported at L'Oréat, in the South of France, on Sunday.

MULVIN FARDONED.

M. Sadi Carnot, the French President, has granted a pardon to M. Turpin, the inventor of the explosive "Nitro-glycerine," who was sentenced to a term of imprisonment, as was agreed, in the interest of a foreign firm.

The Paris *Figaro* commenting on the matter charges M. de Freycinet, the then Premier, with having imprisoned M. Turpin in order to prevent him divulging the secret of the manufacture of the new explosive, and afterwards offering him a pardon and a reward on the condition of his death.

EARTHQUAKE IN ASIA MINOR.

Information has been received of a terrible earthquake having occurred at Mytilene, in Asia Minor, causing great loss of life and immense destruction of property. Three thousand houses are stated to have been completely destroyed, and 6,000 houses partially damaged, and 1,000 persons were killed by the falling buildings.

INFLUENZA.

LONDON, 20th April.

Influence of a virulent type has broken out in Paris. Half the officials in the Post Office department have been incapacitated.

COTTON EXPLOSION.

A disastrous cotton explosion has taken place at Chelmsford, Essex. One hundred and fifty of the impinged men have been rescued, but fifty still remain entombed.

THE OZAR I.

The Oyarzun is to be paid under an attack of influence.

THE IRISH QUEST ON.

Mr. A. J. Balfour addressed a meeting in the Lester Hall, Dublin, to the residents of Lord Levington, who are still engaged in a strike in which Mr. Balfour was seated. Mr. Balfour escaped injury, but the other opponents of the carriage were struck.

Sixty thousand stand of arms have been landed in Ulster. Forty-four corps are now being secretly drilled.

THE HONGKONG WISDOM OF IRISH. The order issued by Lord Houghton, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, restricting the importation of arms into Ireland, is due to the numerous seizures of arms which have been made on passengers coming from America.

A section of the *Irish-Gael* in America, over dissension in the ranks of that organization, has abandoned the revolutionary methods of the *Clan-na-Gael*, and joined the Irish National Federation.

THE NEW CANADIAN-AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

MELBOURNE, 9th April.

Mr. James Holdfast has been interviewed with reference to the proposed steamship service between Canada and Australia, and said the services will be worked by a company styled the "Canadian Pacific Steamship Line," of which Mr. Huddart is the managing owner, and that will be altogether outside and distinct from the firm of Huddart, Parker, and Co. Limited, and the Canadian government agreed to subscribe the new line to the extent of £25,000, and it only remained for the Australian Government to guarantee a like amount, and the new service would be immediately inaugurated. The new steamer *Mowat* and *Warriss* will be used for the work. Mr. Holdfast is very hopeful in the matter, and the Canadian Government has met him, and also with the interest shown in the project by the Premier of New South Wales. Sir George Dibbs had taken up the matter in a federal court, and had refused to commit his government until he had consulted with the other colonies.

As an concession to the Australian Government, he has agreed to join in the affair, the promoters of the new undertaking are prepared to make Brisbane a port of call, and they claim, that this would put Brisbane on an equality with Adelaidia in the matter of speedy communication with London.

BIRMINGHAM, 10th April.

Mr. Ward, representing Mr. James Holdfast, had an interview with the Chief Secretary today in reference to the proposed Canadian steam service. It is intended that Brisbane should be the first port of call towards the east, and onwards, Sydney being the terminus. The subsidy required from Queensland is £25,000. Sir Thomas Mowat, the minister, said the details regarding the proposed terms as in the present position of public affairs, no definite arrangement could be made, but he is in favour of subsidising a direct line of steamers to Vancouver.

MELBOURNE, 10th April.

The Government had, under consideration, to have the proposed Canadian steam service. The consideration of the matter was adjourned, pending advice from the South Australian Government. It is understood that the Victorian Cabinet does not feel satisfied at present, at any rate, to take much interest in the proposal.

ADELAIDE, 10th April.

The Premier today received a telegram from Sir George Grey, the Governor of Tasmania, to the effect that he had received a cablegram from the

Government of Tasmania, saying that the Government was willing to join in guaranteeing a sum of £200,000 for the Postmaster-General.

Mr. Todd, says that from the standpoint of mail and South Australian business men feel little concern about the Pacific route. The Government has not yet considered Sir George Dibbs' communication.

LAWNSWORTH, 10th April.

Ministers have not yet consulted upon the nomination of sub-lieutenant Mr. Huddart's Australian-Canadian line. It is understood that the Government will decline in the present state of the finances of the colony to contribute to the cost of the service.

The additional deposit of £100,000 has been placed

at the disposal of the Australian banks,

which were invested in the Commercial Bank of Australia, but from a cable message which had been received, it was believed that the funds of the society were perfectly safe.

GERMAN SAMOA.

The German Consul, commenting upon the present position of affairs in Samoa, advises that Germany should annex the islands.

